

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PALERM 00290 261631Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 AGRE-00 BIB-01 /067 W
-----270205Z 126709 /14
R 220900Z APR 77
FM AMCONGEN PALERMO IT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2057
INFO RUFHRO /AMEMB ROME IT//0936

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PALERMO 0290
E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJ: PCI SICILIAN REGIONAL CONGRESS
REF: (A) PALERMO 0244 (B) PALERMO 0219 (C) PALERMO 0268
1. SUMMARY: APRIL 16-18 PCI SICILIAN REGIONAL CONGRESS WENT
ACCORDING TO PLAN WITH ACHILLE OCCHETTO STANDING-DOWN AS REGIONAL
SECRETARY. CONGRESS DEBATE, KEYNOTED BY PCI NATIONAL DIRECTORATE
MEMBER ALDO TORTORELLA, FEATURED DISCUSSION OF PARTY'S HOPES AND
PLANS FOR GREATER PCI ROLE IN GOVERNING PROCESS. END SUMMARY.
2. THE PCI HELD ITS EIGHTH SICILIAN REGIONAL CONGRESS, APRIL 16-18,
AT PALERMO'S VILLA IGIEIA RESORT HOTEL. AS ANTICIPATED REF. B,
REGIONAL SECRETARY ACHILLE OCCHETTO STEPPED DOWN TO ASSUME NEW
RESPONSIBILITIES IN ROME, WHERE HE PRESENTLY SERVES ON PARTY

PAGE 02 RUFRSGG3332 C O N F I D E N T I A L
COMMITTEE CHARGED WITH DESIGNING A "NEW SOCIETY". THE ELECTION
OF GIANNI PARISI AS OCCHETTO'S REPLACEMENT IS FOREGONE CONCLUSION.
PARISI, 41, MARRIED AND THE FATHER OF 3, HAS A DEGREE IN POLITICAL
ECONOMY FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MOSCOW. A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST
YOUTH FEDERATION SINCE 1951, HE HAS SERVED AS REGIONAL VICE
SECRETARY SINCE 1975.
3. CONGRESS DEBATE FEATURED FURTHER ELABORATION OF OCCHETTO'S
PROPOSAL THAT LOCAL DC-PCI RELATIONSHIP MOVE INTO "PHASE THREE"
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PALERM 00290 261631Z

WHICH WOULD MAKE OF PCI "AN INTEGRAL" PART OF THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT
MAJORITY, WITHOUT, HOWEVER, SEEKING COMMUNIST ENTRY INTO THE
REGIONAL GIUNTA. LATTER DEVELOPMENT WOULD PRESUMABLY CONSTITUTE
PHASE FOUR. PHASE THREE PROPOSAL INCLUDES POSSIBLE CREATION OF A
PROGRAM COMMITTEE WITH REPRESENTATION FROM ALL "CONSTITUTIONAL ARC"
PARTIES. IN HIS CONGRESS REMARKS, PARISI DID NOT RULE OUT SOCIALIST
PROPOSAL FOR A PERMANENT CONFERENCE OF "CONSTITUTIONAL PARTY" FLOOR

LEADERS IN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY. REGARDLESS OF FORM AND FORMAT, IMPORTANT NEXT STEP IS DC REACTION, TO PHASE THREE PROPOSALS MAJORITY OF CONGRESS SPEAKERS URGED PROMPT DC RESPONSE AND CRITIZED "HYPOCRITICAL" DC DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN PROGRAM MAJORITY AND GOVERNMENT MAJORITY. REGIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT DE PASQUALE, WHILE

PAGE 03 RUFRSGG3332 C O N F I D E N T I A L

AGREEING WITH SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT OF PHASE THREE, SUGGESTED THAT PCI NOT PRESS TOO HARD FOR DC REACTION SINCE FORMAL REJECTION COULD TROUBLE PRESENTLY CALM AND PROFITABLE DEFACTO DC-PCI RELATIONSHIP. CONGRESS' KEYNOTE SPEAKER, NATIONAL DIRECTORATE MEMBER ALDO TORTORELLA, NOTED THAT SICILIAN AND NATIONAL PARTIES WERE BOTH WORKING TOWARD SAME GOAL BY VARYING TACTICS, VIZ. FURTHER INSERTION OF PCI IN THE POWER STRUCTURE.

4. AS FOR REGIONAL ECONOMIC PRIORITIES, CONGRESS CALLED FOR MORE AID TO AGRICULTURE AND RELATED FOOD-PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND TO SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZE INDUSTRY. INTERESTING HERE IS PCI'S DE-EMPHASIS ON REGIONAL GOVERNMENT AS PUBLIC ENTREPRENEUR WHICH HAS CREATED "PARASITIC", INEFFICIENT AND UNPROFITABLE FIRMS.

5. AS TO LOCAL PARTY'S VITAL STATISTICS AT END OF 1976: MEMBERSHIP - 70,000 (OF WHICH 10.9 PERCENT ARE WOMEN); YOUTH MEMBERSHIP - 9,684. SICILIAN PARTY HAS 24 REGIONAL DEPUTIES, 15 NATIONAL DEPUTIES. AND 8 SENATORS. WITH 27.5 PERCENT OF THE VOTE IN THE 1976 ELECTIONS, THE PCI WAS LOWER THAN NATIONAL AVERAGE BUT, THROUGH "CONFRONTO" WITH DC, HAS FOSTERED THE SPREAD OF CLOSER DC-PCI COOPERATION FROM THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT TO NEARLY ALL OF THE ISLAND'S PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATIONS AND PROVINCIAL CAPITALS. IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PALERM 00290 261631Z

PAGE 04 RUFRSGG3332 C O N F I D E N T I A L

ADDITION, IT FORMS PART OF CITY GOVERNMENT IN 91 OUT OF SICILY'S 385 MUNICIPALITIES WITH A POPULATION NUMBERING SOME 19 PERCENT OF THE ISLAND'S TOTAL - A 5 PERCENT INCREASE OVER THE PAST 3 YEARS.

6. COMMENT: LOCAL PCI HAS CONSTRUCTED PHASE THREE PROPOSAL AS HALF-WAY HOUSE BETWEEN CURRENT DC-PCI RELATIONSHIP AND FULL GOVERNMENT ROLE FOR PCI. AS SUCH, IT WOULD PERMIT FURTHER GROWTH IN RELATIONS WITHOUT FORMALLY CHANGING "QUADRO POLITICO" WHICH DC CANNOT ACCEPT. FORMULA IS ALSO RESPONSIVE TO THOSE IN PCI WHO ARE STILL RETICENT ABOUT COOPERATION WITH CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS.

COLLINS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PALERM00290
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770146-0010
Format: TEL
From: PALERMO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770429/aaaaaykv.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ce1b8ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PALERMO 244, 77 PALERMO 219, 77 PALERMO 268
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2721820
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PCI SICILIAN REGIONAL CONGRESS
TAGS: PINT, IT, PCI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ce1b8ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009